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PTQ4350

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D), B6

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ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	VC-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01
	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00

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R 142004Z JUN 02
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6400
NSC WASHDC
USCINCSO MIAMI FL
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 001718

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD
NSC FOR SALCEDO

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/13/12
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, VE

SUBJECT: POLITICAL UPDATE JUNE 14

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR CHARLES S. SHAPIRO. REASONS 1.5
(B) & (D)

REFS: A. CARACAS 1674 B. CARACAS 1697
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OPPOSITION MARCH SET FOR JUNE 15

B1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 11 OCT 2006 200505275

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BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES SURROUND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

2. (U) ON JUNE 13, A GROUP OF BOLIVARIAN CIRCLE MEMBERS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT SYMPATHIZERS SURROUNDED THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO PROTEST AGAINST THE MEDIA AND DEPUTIES. THE PROTESTERS THREW ROCKS AND EGGS, AIMING NOT ONLY AT MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION. MVR DEPUTIES, INCLUDING ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT WILLIAN LARA, WHO TRIED TO REASON WITH THE CROWD ALSO HAD EGGS THROWN AT THEM, AND RECEIVED SHOUTS OF "DON'T SELL YOURSELF TO THE MEDIA," "VIVA CHAVEZ," AND
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"TRAITOR AND SELLOUT." LARA DENOUNCED THE PROTEST AS A COLLECTIVE KIDNAPPING, AND CALLED FOR INCREASED SECURITY AT THE ASSEMBLY.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF POLITICAL COMMISSION

3. (U) CARLOS TABLANTE (MAS-MENOS), PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL COMMISSION THAT WAS ESTABLISHED TO INVESTIGATE THE APRIL 11 EVENTS RELEASED A REPORT JUNE 13 THAT PLACES THE BLAME FOR THE DEATHS ON THE CHAVEZ GOVERNMENT. THE REPORT CLAIMS THAT CHAVEZ ORDERED THE ACTIVATION OF A MILITARY OPERATION AGAINST A PACIFIC MARCH, AND THAT MINISTER OF DEFENSE RANGEL ORDERED THE BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES TO DEFEND MIRAFLORES PALACE. PRO-GOVERNMENT DEPUTIES PLAN TO RELEASE THEIR OWN REPORT WHICH WILL BLAME MILITARY REBELLION AND THE DE FACTO GOVERNMENT FOR THE TEMPORARY ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER.

 TROOPS RESTRICTED TO QUARTERS

5. (U) THE FOUR COMPONENTS OF THE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES (NATIONAL GUARD, ARMY, NAVY, AND AIR FORCE) HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED TO QUARTERS SINCE JUNE 9. THE DECISION TO DO SO WAS BASED ON INFORMATION GATHERED BY THE DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SUGGESTING THAT A COUP WAS BEING PLANNED FOR THIS COMING WEEKEND.

 POLLSTER SAYS CHAVEZ WILL WIN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

6. (U) ALFREDO KELLER, PRESIDENT OF POLLING COMPANY DATANALYSIS SAYS THAT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ'S APPROVAL RATING IS UP TO 38 PERCENT, AND HE WOULD EASILY WIN A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IF ONE WERE HELD TODAY IF THERE WERE NO SECOND ROUND. IGNACIO JUARISTI, PRESIDENT OF CONSULTORES 21, ANOTHER POLLING FIRM, SAYS CHAVEZ'S POPULARITY MAY BE AS HIGH AS 50 PERCENT.

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 ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	VC-00	H-01
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	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00
	/005W						

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R 142004Z JUN 02
 FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
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 NSC WASHDC
 USCINCSO MIAMI FL
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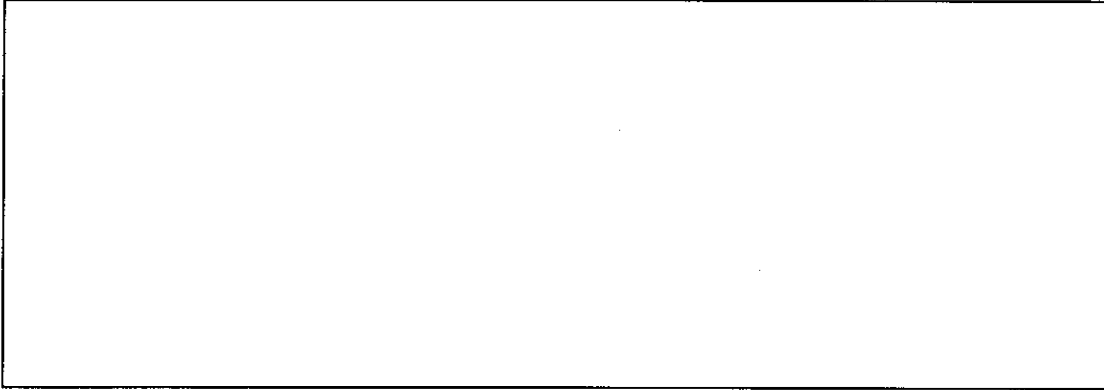
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CARACAS 001718

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